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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/763,511	01/23/2004	Daniel McCleary	GAFI (CIP)	7230

23699 7590 01/12/2007
CLAUSEN MILLER, P.C
SUITE 1600
10S. LASALLE STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60603

EXAMINER

STINSON, FRANKIE L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1746

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/12/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/763,511	MCCLEARY ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	FRANKIE L. STINSON	1746	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2 and 4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3, 5 and 6 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

1. Claims 1-6 are under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Re claim 1, line 2, the phrase "the interior" is without proper antecedent basis

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over EPO'842 (European patent Office 0 460 842) in view of either Atchinson et al. (U. S. pat. No. 4,256,511) or Costantini (U. S. Pat. No. 5,494,227).

Re claim 1, EPO'842 (see figs. 1 and 2) discloses an industrial air or liquid handling device access and cleaning apparatus which accesses the interior of an air or liquid handling device at a pipe access location having a pipe access diameter and a pipe access connection mechanism, said apparatus comprising:

a cleaning agent delivery tube(12) capable of delivering a cleaning agent, said delivery tube having an outside diameter, a proximate end and a distal end;

a cleaning agent ejection nozzle (10) capable of ejecting a flow of said cleaning agent fixedly attached to said distal end of said delivery tube; said delivery tube, when said delivery tube is inserted into a wall opening of said device, said delivery tube is traversed across a predetermined operational range within said device interior;

an access control valve (26, 24) , said access control valve having an access end and a component end, said access end having the same diameter and connection mechanism as said pipe access diameter and said pipe access connection mechanism, said access end being attached to said pipe access location, said component end being attached to said attachment by a connecting means that differs from the claim only in the recitation of the tube sealing means and the tracking means being within the device interior. The patents to Atchinson and Constantini are cited disclosing the tube seal. It therefore would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify the device of EPO'842, to include tube sealing means as taught by either Atchinson or Costantini, for the proper of preventing the egress of fluid through the tube area. Atchinson and Costantini disclose the tracking means in the device interior.

4. Claims 2 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the applied prior art as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Germany'186 (Germany 29 10 186).

Claims 2 and 4 define over the applied prior art only in the recitation of the tracking means being slotted. Germany'186 is cited disclosing the tracking means as claimed. It therefore would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify the tracking if EPO'842, to be as taught by Germany'186, for the purpose of ensuring the proper spacing and alignment of the nozzle.

5. Claims 3, 5 and 6 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Hall, Germany'197, Ridley, Germany'011, Germany'942, Germnay'960, Herndon, Jr. and Smith, note the device cleaner.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to FRANKIE L. STINSON whose telephone number is (571) 272-1308. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 5:30 am to 2:00 pm and some Saturdays from approximately 5:30 am to 11:30 am.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Barr, can be reached on (571) 272-1700. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-272-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

fls



FRANKIE L. STINSON
Primary Examiner
GROUP ART UNIT 1746